

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to amend the turkey dates and limits for the 201~~2~~3 season.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§115. Turkey Hunting Areas, Seasons, and Bag Limits

A. Daily limit is one gobbler. Season limit is two gobblers. Turkeys taken on WMAs are part of the season bag limit. Only one turkey may be taken during spring WMA lottery hunts and only one turkey may be taken during the fall WMA lottery hunt.

B. Turkey season will open on the fourth Saturday in March. The Area A turkey season will be 30 consecutive days in length, the Area B turkey season will be 23 consecutive days in length, and the Area C turkey season will be 16 consecutive days in length. Wildlife Management Areas, National Forests, National Wildlife Refuges, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers land may vary from this framework. Deviation from this framework may

occur in those years when the fourth Saturday in March falls the day before Easter.

C. Statewide Youth Turkey and Physically Challenged Season on private lands shall be the weekend prior to the start of the regular turkey season.

D. Only those Wildlife Management Areas listed herein are open to turkey hunting. All other Wildlife Management Areas are closed.

E. 20123 Turkey Hunting Schedule

AREA	SEASON DATES
A	March <u>23</u> 4 - April <u>21</u> 2
B	March <u>23</u> 4 - April <u>14</u> 5
C	March <u>23</u> 4 - April <u>7</u> 8
Private Lands Youth and Physically Challenged Hunter (Wheelchair Confined) Hunt	March <u>16</u> 7- <u>17</u> 8

F. Wildlife Management Area Turkey Hunting Schedule

WMA	Non-Lottery Hunt Dates	Lottery Hunt Dates
Attakapas	March <u>23</u> 4 - March <u>April</u> <u>31</u>	None
Bayou Macon	None	April <u>13</u> 4 - <u>14</u> 5
Bens Creek	March 24 - April 8	None
Big Lake	March <u>23</u> 4 - April <u>7</u> 8	None
Bodcau	March <u>23</u> 4 - April <u>7</u> 8	None
Boeuf	March <u>23</u> 4 - March <u>April</u> <u>31</u>	None
Clear Creek	April <u>12</u> - April <u>21</u> 2	March <u>23</u> 4 - <u>24</u> 5 March <u>30</u> - <u>31</u> 1 - April <u>31</u>
Camp Beauregard	March <u>23</u> 4 - March <u>April</u> <u>31</u>	None
Dewey Wills	None	March April <u>23</u> 14 - <u>15</u> March April <u>24</u> 21 - <u>22</u> March <u>30</u> March <u>31</u>

Fort Polk- Vernon	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>21</u> ²	None
Grassy Lake	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - March April <u>31</u>	None
Hutchinson Creek	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>21</u> ²	None
Jackson- Bienville	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Lake Ramsey	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Little River	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Loggy Bayou	None	April <u>12</u> ³ - <u>14</u> ⁵
Peason Ridge	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>21</u> ²	None
Red River	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Sabine	None	April <u>13</u> ⁴ - <u>15</u> ⁶ April <u>19</u> ²⁰ - <u>21</u> ²
Sandy Hollow	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Sherburne	March <u>25</u> ⁹ - <u>27</u> ³⁰	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - <u>24</u> ⁵ March 26 - 28
Sicily Island	None	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - <u>25</u> ⁶ March <u>26</u> ⁷ - <u>28</u> ⁹ March <u>29</u> ³⁰ - March April <u>31</u> April <u>12</u> - <u>34</u> April <u>45</u> - <u>78</u>
Tangipahoa Parish School Board	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>21</u> ²	None
Three Rivers	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>7</u> ⁸	None
Tunica Hills South Tract	April <u>8</u> ⁹ - <u>14</u> ⁵	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - <u>24</u> ⁵ March <u>30</u> ¹ - March April <u>31</u> April <u>67</u> - <u>78</u>
Tunica Hills North Tract	April <u>8</u> ⁹ - <u>14</u> ⁵	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - <u>24</u> ⁵ March <u>30</u> ¹ - March April <u>31</u> April <u>67</u> - <u>78</u>
Union	None	April <u>12</u> - <u>14</u> April <u>19</u> ²⁰ - <u>21</u> ²
Walnut Hills	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - April <u>21</u> ²	None
West Bay	None	March <u>23</u> ⁴ - <u>24</u> ⁵ March <u>30</u> ¹ - March April

		31 April 67 - 78
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G. Wildlife Management Area & Kisatchie National Forest
Lottery Youth Hunts

<u>WMA/Ranger District</u>	<u>Lottery Youth Hunt Date</u>
Bens Creek	March 17
Big Lake	March 16 7
Bodcau	March 16 7 - 17 8
Clear Creek	March 16 7
Fort Polk-Vernon/Peason Ridge, / Calcasieu Ranger Dist. <u>Caney Ranger District.</u> <u>Catahoula Ranger Dist.</u> <u>Kisatchie Ranger Dist. &</u> <u>Winn Ranger Dist.</u>	March 16 7
Grassy Lake	March 16 7
Jackson-Bienville	March 16 7 - 17 8
Loggy Bayou	April 67 - 78
Pearl River	April 67 <u>April 13</u>
Pomme de Terre	April 67
Sherburne	March 167 - 18
Sicily Island	March 16 7
Spring Bayou	April 67
Tunica Hills	March 16 7
Union	April 67 - 78
West Bay	March 16 7

H. Non-lottery youth hunts

1. Bodcau WMA will be open April ~~134-145~~ (only youths may hunt).

2. Jackson-Bienville WMA will be open April ~~134-145~~ (only youths may hunt).

I. Wildlife Management Area Physically Challenged
(Wheelchair Confined) Hunt

1. Jackson-Bienville WMA will be open April ~~15~~⁶ - ~~21~~² to holders of valid physically challenged hunter (wheelchair classification) permits.

J. Federal Lands Turkey Hunting Schedule

1. Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) turkey hunting schedule: Caney Ranger District, March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~7~~⁸; all remaining KNF lands, March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~14~~⁵ (including Catahoula and Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves).

2. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers turkey hunting schedule: Indian Bayou Area, March ~~16~~⁷-~~17~~⁸ youth and physically challenged lottery only hunt, and lottery hunt only on March ~~23~~⁴-~~24~~⁵ and March ~~30~~¹-~~March~~^{April} ~~31~~¹. Old River Control and Lock Areas, March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~7~~⁸.

3. National Wildlife Refuges: Bogue Chitto NWR, March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~14~~⁵; Lake Ophelia NWR, March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~7~~⁸ hunt ends at 12 p.m. each day; Tensas NWR, March ~~16~~⁷-~~17~~⁸ (youth only), March ~~23~~⁴ - April ~~7~~⁸; Upper Ouachita NWR, March ~~16~~⁷ (youth lottery only).

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2264 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2376 (November 2002), LR 29:2513 (November 2003), LR 30:2875 (December 2004), LR 31:3167

(December 2005), LR 32:2272 (December 2006), LR 33:2470
(November 2007), LR 35:90 (January 2009), LR 35:2481 (November
2009), LR 36:2583 (November 2010), LR 37:3541 (December 2011),
LR 38: .

The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
is authorized to take any and all necessary steps on behalf of
the Commission to promulgate and effectuate this notice of
intent and the final rule, including, but not limited to, the
filing of the fiscal and economic impact statement, the filing
of the notice of intent and final rule and the preparation of
reports and correspondence to other agencies of government.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the
proposed rule to Mr. Kenneth Ribbeck, Wildlife Division,
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Box 98000, Baton Rouge,
LA, 70898-9000 no later than 4:30 p.m., September 67, 20142.

In accordance with Act #1183 of 1999, the Department of
Wildlife and Fisheries/Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby
issues its Family Impact Statement in connection with the
preceding Notice of Intent: This Notice of Intent will have no
impact on the six criteria set out at R.S. 49:972(B).

Ann L. Taylor

Chairman